

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

JANUARY 27, 2015

**Preserving Safety on County Health and Mental Health Facilities**

Recently, a client who was being seen at the Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Psychiatric Urgent Care Center became agitated. As staff tried to calm him, a mental health worker was accidentally shot in the leg. Fortunately, the injured worker is stable and being treated at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

The MLK Psychiatric Urgent Care Center is a public/private partnership in which mental health urgent care services are provided through a Department of Mental Health contract with Exodus Recovery, Inc. After nine years of providing services to nearly 20,000 patients a year, this is the first time this type of incident has occurred at a psychiatric urgent care center run by Exodus Recovery, Inc.

The event reminds the Board of Supervisors of the profoundly important role that the County of Los Angeles plays in the frontlines of the community and how critical it is that services are delivered in a way that preserves the safety and dignity of all residents and staff.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:** Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer, Directors of the Departments of Health Services and Mental Health, County Counsel, and the Sheriff to:

- MORE -

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Report back in thirty days in writing with a full report of the shooting incident that occurred at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Psychiatric Urgent Care Center on January 26, 2015. That report should include:
  - a. Safety protocols in place to preserve the safety of patients and staff at the psychiatric urgent care centers and other similar centers countywide;
  - b. Whether those protocols were followed;
  - c. How those protocols can be improved to preserve the safety, dignity and well-being of clients and staff; and
  - d. Other corrective measures to be taken.
2. A report of the safety protocols and practices at other directly and non-directly operated Los Angeles County (County) mental health and health facilities broken down by facility. That report should include:
  - a. A description of how those protocols were developed;
  - b. Best practices from other jurisdictions;
  - c. Cost estimates of various safety options;
  - d. Information on any trends of violence occurring at County directly operated and indirectly operated facilities over the last five years; and
  - e. Recommendations on any steps to further maintain and improve safety, dignity and well-being of staff and patients Countywide.

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(YV)